



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

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MEDIA RELEASE

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**FORMER MANCHESTER MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
DRUG TRAFFICKING CONSPIRACY**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, NH State Police Colonel Gary Sloper, Manchester Police Department John Jaskolka, and the Drug Enforcement Agency New England Field Division Special Agent in Charge Mark Trouville announced that Brian Robichaud, age 24, formerly of, Manchester, NH, pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute five or more kilograms of cocaine in U.S. District Court in Concord today. Robichaud was one of nine defendants charged in an indictment and superseding indictment returned by a U.S. District Court Grand Jury sitting in Concord.

The defendant, who had been released on bail at the time of his arrest, was immediately detained by Magistrate Judge Muirhead pending his sentencing which is scheduled for this December 18th. The defendant faces a minimum mandatory ten year prison sentence and a potential maximum sentence of life in prison, to be followed by at least a five year term of Supervised Release as well as \$4,000,000 fine.

U. S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "This case is the product of a two-year investigation of a multi-kilogram cocaine trafficking ring based in Lawrence, MA, Manchester, NH, and elsewhere in New Hampshire. The case included a 60 day federal wire intercept, months of physical surveillance conducted by all agencies involved, and various other investigative techniques. Mr. Robichaud was a primary cocaine distributor in a state wide cocaine distribution organization which was as difficult to penetrate as any drug trafficking organization this state has seen. This case is a fine example of the perseverance and hard work of all agencies involved."

The N. H. State Police Narcotics Investigative Unit, the Manchester, NH Police Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration investigated this case. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Clyde Garrigan and Mark Irish.